

TENANTS IN ACTION
GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA BENEFIT
SPONSORED BY THE GREATER NEWARK HUD TENANT COALITION

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Frederica Bey
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Dr. La Francis Rodgers
Rev. Willie Simmons
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Committee Members

Doris Childs
Ethel Ellis
Bill Good
Frank Hutchins
Cynthia Pullen
Elaine Sewell
Bernice Wallace

August 22, 1997

Mr. Larry L. Bembry Executive Director
Newark Fighting Back
33 Washington Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Dear Mr. Bembry:

The HUD Tenant's Coalition (HTC) of Newark, NJ is seeking business and corporate sponsors for our Annual Benefit Concert for Tenants In Action, to be held September 13, 1997 at Essex County College in Newark New Jersey. Founded in 1987 the HUD Tenant's Coalition has grown from a eight (8) member buildings to over twenty (20) members and still growing. The HUD Tenant's Coalition of Newark, NJ, brings together tenant leaders from privately-owned HUD assisted apartment complexes in Newark emphasizing tenant advocacy and grassroots organization. The HUD Tenant Coalition of Newark, NJ faces major challenges, as the changes in Federal Housing Policy will translate into rent increases, buy-out of affordable housing programs, and de-regulation. Residents will have to deal with the local Housing Authority and state agencies which will assume most of the responsibility for monitoring building conditions, and regulating programs in these buildings. In 1995 The HUD Tenant Coalition of Newark, NJ was selected as one of ten national projects to receive a special three year grant for outreach programs to advise tenants of their rights and preserve these buildings as affordable housing.

The HUD Tenants Coalition has three primary programs activities which are Tenant Education and Outreach, Technical Assistance, and Advocacy. We host monthly meetings where tenant leaders exchange strategies and plan action. Additionally, leadership training workshops, attend building meetings, assist in developing special programs for member buildings, and locate expert accountants/lawyers when needed in our efforts to maintain safe, decent, sanitary housing for our estimated 20,000 residents.

Our Annual Benefit Concert for Tenants In Action is an important vehicle in our efforts to develop and maintain our advocacy for tenants who live in HUD funded housing. It is my sincere hope that you will join us by becoming a sponsor for this years concern. If you require any additional information please feel free to contact me Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at (201) 643-7711. Thanking you in Advance for your attention to this matter of community concern.

Sincerely,


Mr. Frank Hutchins

*He would like to
request a donation of
\$1500.00*

FH/mh

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